My top priority is to be of service to you. If you are a resident of the 39th Congressional District encountering problems with a federal agency, I want to help! I employ a team of Constituent Services Representatives in my offices who receive many calls and letters each week from constituents seeking assistance.

View the District Map to determine if you are a resident of the 39th Congressional District.

# "Congresswoman Sánchez, can you help me?"

While it isn't possible to set aside federal laws, rules and regulations for an individual, my staff and I can help Californians with misunderstandings, disagreements and other problems they are having with federal agencies. Although some cases can take longer to resolve than others, some requests for assistance can be resolved with a letter or phone call from my office.

My staff members work with all federal agencies. Some of the agencies we contact on a daily basis include:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Department of State
Department of Veterans Affairs
Internal Revenue Service
Social Security Administration
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

## "How do I get your help?"

Most often, I can initiate a federal agency inquiry on behalf of constituents only with their express written authorization. My staff can send the necessary form to you for your signature, and you should send a letter to my district office explaining your problem and giving me permission to make inquiries and receive information on your behalf. Click here to obtain a <a href="Congressional Authorization Form">Congressional Authorization Form</a>

According to the Privacy Act of 1974, this form must be signed and submitted before we can

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assist you with your case.

In addition, I need your full legal name, address, daytime phone number, pertinent case or file numbers (i.e.: social security number, alien number, USCIS receipt number, military service number, VA claim number, etc.). Copies of previous correspondence with an agency can also provide helpful background for my staff.

Please send your written requests for help to: U.S. Representative Linda Sánchez 17906 Crusader Avenue, Suite 100 Cerritos, CA 90703 Attn: Casework Manager

OR Fax to: 562-924-2914

If you prefer, you can stop by our office and speak with a caseworker. Appointments can be made by calling (562)860-5050

Agencies can take four or more weeks to respond. A member of my staff will contact you as soon as we receive a response.

## "Should I contact you or another Representative?"

As one of fifty-three U.S. Representatives for California, I represent the 39th Congressional District including the communities of Artesia, Cerritos, Florence-Firestone, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada, Long Beach, Lynwood, Paramount, South Gate, Watts, Whittier, Los Nietos and Watts-Willowbrook. In addition, you have two U.S. Senators who represent the entire state.

When you contact me, it is important to let me know if you have already contacted another federal legislator. The chances of success do not necessarily increase if more than one federal legislator gets involved in your case. In fact, it can be counter-productive. Responding to multiple inquiries duplicates the work for agencies, leaving them less time to actually work on processing your case.

"Can you help get the potholes in my street patched, or lower my property taxes?"

Unfortunately, there are limits to the types of cases in which I can help. For example, it is prohibited as a federal legislator to intervene in an on-going legal or judicial proceeding.

In addition, I have no authority over programs administered by the State of California, even federally funded programs such as the Food Stamps program.

I also cannot intervene in private matters or local issues such as zoning, property taxes and road repair that are under the jurisdiction of the city or county in which you live. I hope you find the following suggested contacts helpful in resolving local issues.

#### **Local Government Issues:**

Mayor, City Manager, City Council members

### **County Issues:**

County Commissioners, County Supervisors

#### State Issues:

Office of the Governor, State Assembly, State Senate Click here to find your state legislators